

REMARKS

In response to the Official Action dated 11/16/2005, the above-identified application has been amended. Review and reconsideration are requested in view of the above amendments and following remarks.

The Applicant's Counsel and the Examiner discussed in an interview on March 13, 2006, the status of the claims and proposed amendment to the specification and claims. Specifically, rejections to claims 12, 17-21 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 were discussed and the proposed amendments to such claims are believed to overcome the rejections. Thus, the 112 issues are believed to be overcome and withdrawal of the rejection is kindly requested.

In addition, the 103 rejections with respect to claim 17-21 were addressed. It was discussed that the newly added language to claim 17 requires that each members be part of a set for a predetermined kind of brass wind instrument, each having a cup chamber connecting to a smaller diameter center-bore and having an end taper of substantially equal size configured to the other member to fit the predetermined kind of brass instrument, when taken with other limitations of the claims would appear to define over the Bach and Shepley references. Accordingly, applicant believes the remaining claims now overcome the 103 rejection thereto. Withdrawal of the rejection is therefore kindly requested.

Claims 12, 17-20, 22, and 23 appear to be in condition for allowance and the same is requested at as early a date as possible. A one month extension is requested herewith along with a petition and fee. This is intended to be complete response to the Official Action dated 11/16/2005.

Respectfully submitted,



R. William Graham

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Respectfully submitted,



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